

FARNHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1905

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

26

I beg to report that I have received 331 notifications under the Infectious Diseases (notification) Act, 1899. This is a very much larger number than was received in 1904, but the increase is entirely due to a very extensive epidemic of Measles, which accounts for 312. Of the remainder 7 were of Diphtheria, 7 of Scarlet Fever, 4 of Erysipelas, and 1 of Enteric Fever; the cases of the first two are much less numerous than last year. It is very remarkable that we had seven months, from May to November inclusive, without a single case of Diphtheria, and four months, from August to November inclusive, without a case of Scarlet Fever. The following table shows in what months the cases occurred:—

MONTH.	DIPHTHERIA.	SCARLATINA.	ENTERIC FEVER.	MEASLES.	ERYSIPELAS.
January	1	..	..	13	..
February .....	..	2	..	176	..
March	2	..	..	54	2
April	3	..	..	38	..
May.....	..	2	..	28	1
June .....	..	1	..	1	..
July.....	..	1	..	1	..
August .....	..	..	..	..	..
September .....	..	..	..	..	..
October .....	..	..	1	..	..
November .....	..	..	..	1	..
December	1	1	..	..	1
Totals.....	7	7	1	312	4

Diphtheria.—All the 7 cases were single cases, except in one instance, of a mother and son in a house in West Street, where the sanitary conditions were found to be very objectionable. These have since been amended. One case was in Lowndes' Buildings which is another of the rows of cottages which are very confined, both front and back, and get little air and sun. There was no special fault to be found with the premises on which the other 4 persons lived. One patient died in the Isolation Hospital to which he had been removed.

Scarlatina.—These were all single, isolated cases, and require no comment. There was no fatal case.

Erysipelas.—4 cases. In two nothing was found on the premises to account for it. In one the drains were blocked, and the occupier knew it, but had taken no steps to have them cleared. In another (Beaver's Kilns) considerable defects were discovered, there being no water laid on to the premises and very objectionable privies. The water has now been laid on, and earth closets put in, as the premises are too far from a sewer to compel their connection.

Smallpox.—No case has occurred, but twice during the year I received notice of a man having come to Farnham who had been on board a ship, on which a case had occurred. I investigated the circumstances in both cases and satisfied myself that it was unnecessary to take any action.

Enteric Fever.—One case occurred in a young man who had been lodging at Basingstoke during the time the epidemic there was going on, and brought it to his home at Farnham.

Whooping Cough was prevalent in the spring and caused two deaths.

Influenza caused one death, though there has been nothing that could be called an epidemic.

Measles.—A large epidemic began on January 22, 1905, and ended on May 25, 1905, the duration being therefore almost exactly 4 months. Measles had been prevalent at Hale, which is north of our district, and at Aldershot, which is east of us, in November and December, 1904. In this district the first case occurred in a child in the National Infant School, which is at the West End of the Town; it spread through this, gradually involving the mixed department, which is under the same roof with the Infants' School. It appeared in the West Street Council School about the same time. From these schools it gradually travelled eastward to the East Street Council Schools and the district from which its scholars are drawn, and finally moved southwards, involving the Bourne Council Schools and the Weydon Hill Estate, Ridgway Lane and the Bourne itself, which is outside the south border of the Urban District. I am at a loss to explain why it travelled in these directions. I have ascertained that it was in the direction of the prevailing wind at the time.

The total number of cases notified to me was 309, 226 of which were notified by doctors and 83 by parents when no doctor was called in to attend, and I have reason to suspect that there were others which were not notified at all. They occurred in 175 different houses; in one house there were 7 cases, and in many there were 4 and 3. They were distributed as follows:—

January	13
February	173
March	58
April.....	37
May	28

showing a very rapid extension to the highest point, and a comparatively slow decline.

In a good many of the cases notified the age of the patient was not stated, so that in 28 of the cases I cannot give their ages; but out of the 281 cases in which the age was verified I find that numbers occurring in each year comes out as follows:—

Under 1 year old.....	16	Under 11 years old.....	6
" 2 " " 	24	" 12 " " 	6
" 3 " " 	26	" 13 " " 	1
" 4 " " 	27	" 14 " " 	3
" 5 " " 	41	" 15 " " 	1
" 6 " " 	40	" 18 " " 	1
" 7 " " 	41	" 23 " " 	1
" 8 " " 	22	" 27 " " 	1
" 9 " " 	14	" 31 " " 	2
" 10 " " 	6	" 41 " " 	2

This shows that the most common age of attack was from 4 to 7 years old, that years 1 to 4 come next, and that above 7 years old the liability to attack becomes rapidly less.

The deaths registered as from Measles during this period were 7, and they occurred: 3 in the 2nd year of life, 1 in the 4th year, 2 in the 5th year, and 1 in the 6th year. They were all the result of one or other of the respiratory diseases, such as Bronchitis or Pneumonia, which commonly occur during convalescence from Measles.

Thus in this epidemic the most dangerous time of life was under 6, the year between 1 and 2 being most fatal of all; and the fact is also brought out that the danger of Measles does not lie in the primary attack, but in the lung inflammations which follow it, and which one hoped might be preventable.

I have recently seen some interesting tables compiled by Dr. Wilson from the results of 20 years Notification of Measles in Aberdeen, and in the following table I contrast the percentages of deaths in our epidemic with the Aberdeen averages, and also the attack rate:—

	Farnham Averages.		Aberdeen Averages.
Percentage of Deaths to total number of cases notified	2·26	....	3·35
Percentage of deaths to cases notified under 2 years old	12· 5	....	10· 0
Ditto " " " " 4 "	3· 3	....	1· 6
Ditto " " " " 5 "	4· 9	....	0·85
Ditto " " " " 6 "	2· 5	....	0· 7
Percentage of persons attacked to 1,000 of population	45· 8	....	34· 9

I gather from this comparison that our epidemic must have been unusually extensive, for I have chosen their *biggest* epidemic to compare with ours, and at some ages more than usually fatal.

Now to compare this epidemic with previous ones:

I have looked up the references to epidemics of Measles in my Annual Reports since 1896. It is of course impossible to compare them accurately, because I knew nothing of the number of cases in the three before 1901, in which year Measles became notifiable here, but judging from their respective durations and the terms I used to describe them, I should say that the one under review surpasses any of the five others which have occurred during the last nine years.

I give a short statement about them and the present one:—

BEFORE NOTIFICATION BECAME COMPULSORY:

Epidemic in August, September and October, 1896 (3 months). Widespread, schools closed, 9 deaths.

Epidemic in February and March, 1899 (2 months). Considerable in amount, 6 deaths.

Epidemic from middle of December, 1900, to end of January, 1901. Not very large in numbers no death.

AFTER NOTIFICATION BECAME COMPULSORY :

Epidemic from middle of December, 1901, to middle of April, 1902. 61 cases, no death.

Epidemic from 5th April to 4th June, 1904. 34 cases, no death.

Epidemic from 22nd January to 25th May, 1905. 309 cases, 7 deaths. Schools closed part of the time.

This being a brief history of the present epidemic and the 5 previous ones—3 before notification and 3 since—I will try and compare them. The 1896 epidemic only lasted 3 months, and was described as widespread; the present one has lasted 4 months, and certainly if I were describing such an one I should use some stronger term than widespread, and yet in 1896 there were 9 deaths, and in the present one only 7. In the 1899 epidemic I have only called it considerable in amount, and yet there were six deaths; in the three next, one before notification and one after, there have been no deaths.

In urging the Urban District Council to adopt the compulsory notification of Measles, I did so because I believed that by getting to know of the cases as they occurred it might be possible to obtain one or other, or all, of the following objects:—

1. The lessening of the very high death-rate;
2. The checking the spread of the epidemic, and so indirectly assisting the first aim;
3. Diminishing the interference with education caused by either school closure or the rejecting children from infected houses. And my reasons for so believing were that I was astonished at the ignorance of the public as to the infectiousness to other people, and the danger of the disease itself to the persons attacked, and I hoped I might be able to educate them in this respect.

I will now try and formulate some of the conclusions I have arrived at:—

- A. With regard to the death-rate:—Judging by the epidemics of 1896 and 1899 there would appear to have been a decided saving of life, but on the other hand, by comparing the death-rate of 1905 with the Aberdeen averages, I am unable to say that there has been any positive good result.
- B. With regard to checking the spread of the epidemic: Though I visited 161 out of 175 houses (the total number in which cases occurred), and took considerable trouble to explain, and make the parents understand, the essential points in which care was necessary, I do not think I can say that the epidemic showed any signs of being checked, though I do think that in the 1904 epidemic I was successful in limiting its spread to the scholars from one school and their immediate friends.
- C. With regard to the efficacy of school closure: It appears to be useless in checking the disease after it has once got firmly established. I believe it is better to close the schools after the first two or three cases for a fortnight, but if it is not checked by this procedure to re-open the schools and allow all children who have had Measles to attend. This, I think, would be taking the best precautions against the spread of the disease, and would produce the least possible interference with education; for it is no doubt a grievance that schools should be closed against those who, having had measles, are probably immune, and whose education ought not to be interfered with for the sake of taking a precaution which seems to be ineffectual.

Thus on the whole, though I should be very sorry to see compulsory notification of Measles done away with, because one would lose great opportunities of studying the disease and keeping the danger of it constantly before the public, I fear I cannot make out a strong case for its retention.

PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

I am unable to take any active steps towards preventing this scourge, as in most cases I do not hear of them till I see the death in the monthly return. I should be very glad if it could be found possible to give me permission to ask the medical men practising in the district if they would voluntarily notify me cases under their care, offering to pay a fee of 2/6 for each certificate and also to pay for the bacteriological examination of sputum in suspected cases. This latter would probably cost about 5/- for each examination. I may say that 12 persons only have died of consumption in the last 2 years.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Of the 15 cases which might have been admitted 14 were removed to the Hospital, only one case electing to be nursed at home—One case only terminated fatally (a Diphtheria). The removal of patients and the disinfection of their premises and bedding have been carried out promptly and efficiently.

MIDWIVES' ACT.

I have two persons only, who to the best of my belief practise "habitually and for gain," namely Mrs. Locke, of Ridgway Road, who, though residing in my district does almost all her work outside it, and Nurse Phillips, who lives in the town, and whose work lies both in the district and in the parishes surrounding. Both these persons are enrolled with the Central Midwives Board. During the year I have had several opportunities of talking to them about their work and I am satisfied that they are both well informed, so far as theoretical knowledge goes, and quite capable of carrying their knowledge into effect. I have inspected their bags, and am satisfied that they are both thoroughly imbued with the necessity of cleanliness and asepsis both in their own persons and with their patients and that they do conscientiously carry it out. No case has occurred in which I have had to take action under the Act.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATE.

The statistics of Births and Deaths do not come out quite so well as last year. The birth-rate has diminished from 25·23 per 1000 to 23·26 and is in fact rather below the average of the last 10 years and considerably below the birth-rate of the United Kingdom.

The death-rate has increased from 12·16 to 12·74 per 1000. This is only a slight increase and it still remains below the average of 10 years.

The Zymotic death-rate has been 1·48 as against 0·75 per 1000: this is accounted for by the 7 deaths from Measles.

There is however one consoling feature about these otherwise worse statistics, namely that only 10 infants under one year old have died. There are two different ways of stating this death-rate; for the purposes of the following table it is calculated, as the others are, at so many *per thousand living*, and it comes out as 1·48 as against 2·27 and if it be calculated at so many *per 1000 births registered* which is the method in use in the statistical tables required by the County Council it comes out at 64·1 per 1000 births registered which is the lowest percentage of any year of which I have kept a record and 34·8 below the average of the last 10 years. This is a most important direction in which to show improvement and I trust it may prove to be lasting and not only temporary. These calculations are made on an estimated population of 6,750.

	TOWN.				UNION.			
	DEATHS.			BIRTHS.	DEATHS.			BIRTHS.
	Total per Month.	Zymotic Diseases.	Under 1 year.		Total per Month.	Zymotic Diseases.	Under 1 year.	
January	8	2	2	12	7	..	..	4
February	8	3	..	7	5	..	..	3
March	8	1	..	17	14	1	1	2
April	7	1	2	11	7	..	1	..
May	5	3	..	11	4	..	..	3
June	11	..	1	13	4	..	..	3
July	6	..	1	16	3	..	..	..
August	3	..	..	15	4	..	..	3
September	7	..	2	11	5	..	1	2
October	8	..	1	9	3	..	..	1
November	5	..	..	13	6	..	..	..
December	10	..	1	21	5	..	..	5
In Brookwood Asylum .....	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Totals	86	10	10	156	70	1	3	26
Per 1000 per annum	12·74	1·48	1·48	23·26				
Ditto in 1904 ..	12·16	0·75	2·27	25·23				
Ditto in 1903 ..	12·17	0·76	2·58	21·35				

WATER SUPPLY.

The supply from the Farnham Water Company has been satisfactory on the whole; it has been analized twice (June 13 and December 8) and the reports were good, showing no evidence of deficient filtration as had been the case in 1904. After the case of Enteric Fever which had been imported from Basingstoke I advised the Council to arrange for another joint inspection of the Farnham Water Company's gathering ground as was done in April, 1899. This was arranged and on 15th December, 1905, Dr. Tanner, Medical Officer of Health, Farnham Rural, Mr. Lewis, on behalf of the Farnham Water Company, Mr. Cass, Surveyor, Farnham Urban, and myself, met by appointment at Hoghatch for the purpose of inspecting the sources, and gathering ground, of that part of the Farnham Water Company's supply which comes from the Rural Council's District.

In their company, I inspected the more or less triangular piece of ground adjoining the house known as "The Wilderness," and which lies on the east side of the Farnham-Ewshot road. I found on the part of the ground, from which, we were informed, water was collected, human excrement, the excrement of horses in considerable quantity, and of other animals in smaller quantity; heaps of refuse including old filthy rags, bits of sacking, tins, and other house refuse. On the small piece of Government ground, also to the east of the Farnham-Ewshot road, where is situated one of the gathering wells, were signs of animal excrement.

Proceeding further, to examine the considerable area of ground to the west of the above-mentioned road, which consists of a good many acres of heath, grass, and copse land, I found the condition of things much better, in fact, with the exception of two horses feeding on the upper part of the land in one place and a considerable quantity of animal excrement in another place, from which, we were informed, water would not find its way into the Company's gathering pipes or wells, the ground seemed quite suitable for the purpose.

Taking the above-mentioned facts into consideration, I must say that I consider it very unpleasant that water should be collected from land, the surface of which is so considerably befouled with animal excrement, and that it is more than unpleasant, in fact decidedly risky, that it should be collected where human excrement and old filthy rags and house refuse are present, for it only requires the existence of a case of Enteric Fever in one of the houses from which these deposits come to make it probable that the Typhoid bacilli would get into the water, and be the possible cause of an epidemic, such as we have seen in different parts of the country. My conclusion is that I should advise the Council to ask the Water Company to make such alterations in their arrangements as will prevent any water from land east of the Farnham-Ewshot road getting into their pipes.

A copy of the above was sent to the Farnham Water Company and to the Farnham Rural District Council. The Company's water has been laid on to 20 premises which did not have it before.

I have had no complaint from any one using the Wey Valley Water Company's water.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

Building is progressing rapidly in the District as will be shown by the following facts: The Sanitary Committee have examined and approved plans for 48 dwelling houses, one new school and considerable alterations and additions to another, 3 new factories, a new post office and a private office, and during the year 80 dwelling houses have been completed.

The 12 cottages which were in course of construction for the Council at the time of my last report were completed in June: They are built on a good site to the south of the town, and in 3 blocks of 4 each with an opening on the ground floor between the 2 middle ones in each block, on the plan originally suggested by the Council's Surveyor, and improved upon by the Council's Architect, Mr. A. H. Guyer. They have a small piece of land in front and a good sized piece behind, this supplies a maximum amount of circulation of fresh air and from their position they get a full supply of sunlight. Care has been taken in the design to secure as good lighting and ventilation of the rooms as possible, and every bedroom has a fire place. Of these cottages 6 contain 3 bedrooms and let at 6s. per week, 6 contain 2 bedrooms and let at 4s. 6d. per week. They have been continuously let since their first occupation. These complete the 20 houses which the Council decided to build.

Of the 15 cottages in Red Lion Lane alluded to in last year's Annual Report, 5 were closed by order of the Farnham Magistrates as unfit for human habitation: 4 remain unoccupied and one has been repaired and rendered habitable: Of the 10 which had been reported on as nuisances, 2 are unoccupied, and 8 have been repaired.

Two cases of overcrowding were discovered, and their abatement secured.

ABATEMENT of NUISANCES, SEWERAGE and SCAVENGING.

Many nuisances have been dealt with by the Inspector under the Council's general authorization to procure their abatement by direct negotiation with the owners or occupiers causing them; the following have been in this way abated voluntarily—

Cleansing choked drains, 17.

Altering and amending drains, 7.

Repairing premises, including drains, 20.

Removing nuisances from keeping fowls, &c., 4,

and 32 other nuisances have been abated after statutory notices had been served on the occupiers.

The frequent complaints of bad smells due to escapes from the gas mains into the sewers in Downing Street, have not been received since the Gas Company laid a new main in the street.

Complaints were received of offensive manure used on the ground in the vicinity of the houses in the town on 3 occasions. It would appear that the farmer has a legal right to make a nuisance by carting and spreading manure on land, for the necessary agricultural cultivation of this land, provided he does not leave the manure on the surface of the ground for a longer period than is reasonable. After these complaints the Council directed its officers, in case of a recurrence of the nuisance, to watch the operation carefully, and to take immediate action for the removal of the nuisance if any unreasonable delay occurred.

New sewers to the length of about 716 yards have been laid in the rapidly growing district south of the town, for the purpose of sewerage newly erected houses, or new roads where houses are in course of erection.

The sewerage system is regularly flushed and has worked well, except some temporary blocks in two portions which have been removed.

The pumping station and sewage farm are in good order. The collection and disposal of house refuse has been carried on as usual, except for its increased quantity owing to the larger number of buildings. I understand that owing to this larger quantity some of it has to be removed in *open* carts; this is not at all good from a sanitary point of view, and I should consider it advisable to get another *covered* van for the more safe removal of this refuse which must go through the streets.

The experiment which was tried in 1904 and 1905 of coating the surface of the main roads and some of South street and Castle street with a mixture of tar and oil, with powdered lime was, I think, decidedly successful, and should be tried again in the ensuing summer. It appears to act both mechanically by making smooth, quiet, non-absorbant surfaces to the roads, and possibly also chemically, because the mixture is of a distinctly deodorizing nature, so that it not only diminishes very much the quantity of dust produced, but probably more or less disinfects it: I think it must be most important to disinfect the roads as much as possible, considering the number of shops which supply the food supply of the public, which abut on these roads. The dust is, of course, most irritating, locally to the eyes, and lungs when inhaled.

The ordinary scavenging of the roads has been continued as usual.

INSPECTION of FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

During November and December I inspected 21 Factories, 32 Workshops and Workplaces, 9 Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops, 9 Slaughter Houses, 14 Bakeries, 2 Laundries, and 2 Lodging Houses.

FACTORIES.

These are distinguished from Workshops as being places where the work is done by machinery moved by some motive power other than hand power, and in these cases the Factory Inspector enquires into all matters connected with the regulations of the Factory Act; and my duty consists only in ascertaining whether the sanitary arrangements are adequate considering the workpeople employed, and in good order, and also satisfying myself that the means of escape are sufficient, in case of fire in all such places where more than 40 persons are employed.

In the following Factories the sanitary arrangements are good, or passable, and the means of escape from fire sufficient in those cases where more than 40 persons are employed :—

<i>Surrey & Hants News</i> , Borough.	Messrs. Heath & Wiltshire, East Street.
Mr. Nichols ditto.	Mr. Heath, Fairfield.
Mr. Mardon, Castle Street.	Messrs. Heath & Wiltshire, South Street.
Messrs. Tily ditto.	Messrs. Hickley & Co., ditto.
Farnham Manufacturing Company, Downing Street.	Messrs. Crosby & Co., ditto.
Mr. March, East Street.	Farnham United Breweries, Ltd., West Street.
Messrs. Barling, East Street.	Mr. Langham, West Street.
Messrs. Sturt & Goatcher, East Street.	Mr. Mathews ditto.
Messrs. Goddard & Sons ditto.	Messrs. Fenn & Co. ditto.

In the following cases I noted small defects causing more or less unsanitary conditions, and I would suggest that a copy of my report, as far as it relates to each individual case, should be sent to the occupier :—

MR. ELLIOTT, WEST STREET.—The water closet wants whitewashing, and the pan was dirty.

MESSRS. TOMPSETT & Co., LONGBRIDGE.—There are 3 trough-closets provided which are flushed automatically, but this flush is not sufficient to keep the pans clean. They were all dirty at the time of my visit, and I hope some trouble will be taken to keep them clean in future, as this is the second year running that I have had to complain of their condition.

FARNHAM GAS Co.—The pan of the outdoor closet here does not hold water properly. The closet requires more attention than it gets.

WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

In these the principal points to be enquired into are :—

1. Cleanliness of rooms and premises.
2. Ventilation and lightness of rooms.
3. Freedom from effluvia from closets or drains.
4. Sufficiency of cubic space for each worker (250 c. f. being a minimum).

Having regard to these points, I consider the following in sufficiently good order :—

Mrs. Palmer, Borough.	Mr. Ayling, East Street.
Mr. Ransom ditto.	Messrs. Crosby & Co., ditto.
Mr. Shaw ditto.	Miss Wharton ditto.
Mr. Bavis ditto.	Mr. Isles ditto.
Mr. H. K. Bentall ditto.	Miss Tigwell ditto.
Mr. A. J. Bentall ditto.	Mr. Smallbone, Hale Road.
Mr. Morgon ditto.	Miss Brading, Tilford Road.
Mr. Spencer ditto.	Mr. Carter, Snelling's Yard.
Mr. Frisby ditto.	Mr. Davis, West Street.
Mrs. Chuter, Castle Street.	Messrs. Tily ditto.
Mr. Smither, Downing Street.	Mr. Jackman ditto.
Mr. Elliott ditto.	Miss Wooding, South Street.
Mr. A. W. Lee ditto.	

In six cases I found small defects.

MR. BASTOW, FOX YARD.—Here, on the 18th November, beer was being bottled under the same roof as a stable in such a way that the effluvia of the stable found its way into the room in which the beer was being bottled. Since then the horse has been removed, and when the stable is cleaned out thoroughly there will be no cause of complaint.

MISS WALTON, WEST STREET.—Here a closet at the end of the yard has no water laid on. I advise that notice be sent her to have water laid on.

MR. JOHN ROBINS, ABBEY STREET.—The separating partition between the workshop and adjoining stable is so ruinous as to be incapable of keeping out any smell which may arise from the stable. This has now been mentioned three years running.

MR. COWLEY, BORO'.—The water closet has been blocked, and requires attention.

MR. BODKIN, CASTLE STREET.—The two workrooms for men are not kept sufficiently clean, but their water closet is improved. The women's workroom is greatly improved, but their water closet was blocked at the time of my visit.

MR. FIGG, LONG GARDEN WALK.—In the workmen's water closet the cistern was out of order at the time of my visit.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES and MILKSHOPS.

MR. STOVOLD, BROOMLEAF.—The cowsheds and dairy were in good order.

MR. S. BIDE, SNAILSLYNCH.—The cowsheds and dairy were in fairly good order, but the objectionable cesspit on the very edge of the river which was remarked on last year, and which has every appearance of overflowing into the river, remains still unaltered.

MR. SIMMONDS, BOURNE MILL.—Dairy in good order, and the cowsheds themselves, but just outside the cowsheds in which the cows are milked is a very dirty farmyard, the smell from which must come in contact with the milk.

As regards the purveyors of milk, the premises of the following were clean and the milk vessels clean, and in good or fair order. I was particularly struck with the cleansing and disinfecting of the cans and vessels at the Farnham Dairy Company in East Street, where it is all done by turning on steam at high pressure into all the vessels :—

Mr. Baigent, Brewhouse Yard.
Miss Cole, West Street.
Mr. Absalom, Boro'.
Mr. Hawkes, East Street.
Farnham Dairy Co., East Street.

At Mr. Lovelock's, Mount Pleasant, the milk store wants whitewashing, and I saw some foreign bodies in the milk which was just about to be distributed, which looked like bits of vegetable matter, such as leaves, showing want of care in keeping the milk free from impurities.

BAKERIES.

I found 11 of these in good order, namely :—

Mr. Browning, Abbey Street.
Mr. Stacey, Bridge Square.
Mr. Ransom, Boro'.
Mr. F. T. Burningham, Boro'.
Messrs. Chuter & Sons, Castle Street.
Messrs. Bailey & Sons, Downing Street.
Mr. Worsam, Downing Street.
Mr. Beesley, East Street.
Mr. Bunday ditto.
Messrs. Bond & Jerome, West Street.
Mr. Darracott, West Street.

but must remark on the following three :—

MR. STEWART, WEST STREET.—The bakery itself is fairly good, and the yard and surroundings improved, but the brick dungpit at the end of the yard in which the bakery is situate is still in a very ruinous condition, and is not properly attended to.

MR. ROGERS, BORO'.—Here the bakery is in good order, but there are two outdoor closets, in both of which the flushing cisterns were out of order at the time of my visit.

MESSRS. ROGERS & RANSOM, CASTLE STREET.—The bakery is fairly clean, but the yard and stables immediately adjoining are more neglected and dirty than last year, when I remarked on them. The stables are very dirty, the dungpit is large, and had evidently not been emptied for some time; the yard is scattered over with horse dung, and the paving is so bad that it allows the accumulation of dirty liquid in the hollows in wet weather. I consider these premises in such a state as to be a nuisance, and think a notice to abate should be sent.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

These have been inspected from time to time by the Surveror and by the Surveyor and myself in November and December. There are five regular slaughter houses, namely :—

Mr. Aylwin, West Street.
Mr. Brown, ditto.
Mr. Hawkins, East Street.
Mr. Smart, Hatch Mill.
Mr. Stratford, South Street.

They were all in fairly good condition at the time of my visit, but I am not satisfied at the way they are kept in one particular (to which I drew attention last year), namely, that the interior is only whitewashed once in two or three weeks, which is sufficient except as to the walls up to a height of six feet or so from the floor. These get splashed with blood and smeared with other kinds of dirt during slaughtering, and because the whitewashed walls cannot be washed clean with water this dirty condition of walls is allowed to remain from one whitewashing to another, say two weeks. This is most objectionable, considering how very close they nearly all are to inhabited houses. I should suggest that the Bye-laws Committee be instructed to take into their consideration whether a bye-law could not be framed making it compulsory that all slaughter house walls should have a dado six feet high of some material such as glazed tiles, which could be completely cleansed by washing immediately after every slaughtering.

There are also four places where, in open yards, pigs are slaughtered, namely :—

Mr. Baker, Downing Street.
Mr. Follett, West Street.
Mr. Merritt, ditto.
Mr. Whitcher, Downing Street.

These were all in passable condition. They are all four in immediate proximity to inhabited houses.

LAUNDRIES.

The Farnham Sanitary Laundry at Hatch Mill was inspected on 22nd November, and a pipe had been broken by the frost, and as a result there was an overflow into the river. There are two closets on the premises, in one of which the flushing cistern was out of order.

The Beavers Laundry was in good order. It was noticed, however, that the inside wall of the ironing room was very damp up to about two feet from the floor.

LODGING HOUSES.

These two, Mrs. Jones, of West Street, and Mr. Trimarco, of Church Lane, have both been under the Surveyor's observation during the year, and inspected by myself recently, and are in good order.

S. G. SLOMAN,
M.O.H.

17th February, 1906.

